

In the Claims:

Please amend claim 6, and add new claim 8 as follows:

1. (Original) A magnetic recording medium comprising:

an in-plane magnetic film used for recording, the in-plane magnetic film having  
a magnetization easy axis in an in-plane direction; and  
a perpendicular magnetic film formed on said in-plane magnetic film, the  
perpendicular magnetic film having a magnetization easy axis oriented in a direction  
perpendicular to said magnetization easy axis of said in-plane magnetic film,  
wherein a tBr of said perpendicular magnetic film is set so as not to exceed  
one-fifth of a tBr of said in-plane magnetic film at the maximum, where the tBr is the product  
of a thickness and a residual magnetization.

2. (Original) The magnetic recording medium as claimed in claim 1, wherein said

perpendicular magnetic film has a thickness not exceeding 5 nm at the maximum.

3. (Original) The magnetic recording medium as claimed in claim 1, wherein an

anisotropic magnetic field Hk of said perpendicular magnetic film is set at least 1.2 times as  
large as an anisotropic magnetic field Hk of said in-plane magnetic film.

4. (Original) The magnetic recording medium as claimed in claim 1, further

comprising a nonmagnetic spacer provided between said in-plane magnetic film and said perpendicular magnetic film.

5. (Original) The magnetic recording medium as claimed in claim 4, wherein said nonmagnetic spacer has a thickness not exceeding 2 nm.

6. (Currently amended) The magnetic recording medium as claimed in claim 1, wherein said perpendicular magnetic film is formed of ~~one of a Co-group alloy and a Co-group artificial lattice film~~ a Co-group alloy or a Co-group artificial lattice film.

7. (Original) A magnetic recording and reproducing device including:  
a magnetic recording medium comprising:  
an in-plane magnetic film used for recording, the in-plane magnetic film having  
a magnetization easy axis in an in-plane direction; and  
a perpendicular magnetic film formed on said in-plane magnetic film, the  
perpendicular magnetic film having a magnetization easy axis oriented in a direction  
perpendicular to said magnetization easy axis of said in-plane magnetic film,  
wherein a tBr of said perpendicular magnetic film is set so as not to exceed  
one-fifth of a tBr of said in-plane magnetic film at the maximum, where the tBr is the product  
of a thickness and a residual magnetization.

*A  
Claimed*

8.

(New Claim) A magnetic recording medium comprising:  
an in-plane magnetic film used for recording, the in-plane magnetic film having  
a magnetization easy axis in an in-plane direction;  
a perpendicular magnetic film formed on said in-plane magnetic film, the  
perpendicular magnetic film having a magnetization easy axis oriented in a direction  
perpendicular to said magnetization easy axis of said in-plane magnetic film; and  
a nonmagnetic spacer provided between said in-plane magnetic film and said  
perpendicular magnetic film,  
wherein a tBr of said perpendicular magnetic film is set so as not to exceed  
one-fifth of a tBr of said in-plane magnetic film at the maximum, where the tBr is the product  
of a thickness and a residual magnetization, and  
wherein said perpendicular magnetic film has a thickness not exceeding 5 nm  
at the maximum.